

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 033420

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, JA

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SC MEETING IN TOKYO

REF: STATE 29677, USUN 449, TOKYO 1158

1. IO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKE TODAY RAISED WITH JAPANESE MINISTER NISHIDA, QUESTION OF POSSIBLE SC MEETING IN TOKYO. BLAKE SAID WE HAD ASKED MINISTER TO CALL IN ORDER DISCUSS WITH HIM OUR CONCERN OVER THIS POSSIBILITY. NOTING THAT UNDER ART. 28(3) OF UN CHARTER SC MAY MEET AWAY FROM UN HEADQUARTERS WHEN IN ITS JUDGMENT ITS WORK WILL BE FACILITATED THEREBY, BLAKE COMMENTED THAT WE KNOW OF NO SUCH JUSTIFICATION FOR A TOKYO MEETING AND THAT IN UN CONTEXT, ASIAN PROBLEMS CURRENTLY ACTIVE ARE CAMBODIA, KOREA, AND VIETNAM. IN OUR VIEW SC CONSIDERATION OF THESE PROBLEMS AT SUCH MEETING COULD CAUSE BOTH US AND JAPAN EMBARRASSMENT CREATING ARTIFICIAL PRESSURES FROM PUBLIC, CONGRESS, AND DIET THAT WE WOULD BOTH WISH AVOID. IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION CHINA AND USSR ALSO WOULD NOT BE HAPPY SEE THESE PROBLEMS RAISED IN SC. HE APPRECIATED CONSIDERATIONS THAT MIGHT MAKE IDEA OF SC MEETING IN TOKYO ATTRACT-
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IVE, BUT IF SC MET IT MUST CONSIDER SOMETHING, AND ON BASIS OUR EXPERIENCE AT PANAMA SC MEETING, WE COULD NOT BE CERTAIN THAT MEETING'S COURSE COULD BE CONTROLLED. THERE WAS ALSO QUESTION OF COST AND AVOIDANCE ANYTHING LIKELY DETRACT FROM SC IMAGE AS USEFUL UN ORGAN. BLAKE THEN ASKED MINISTER HOW SERIOUSLY IDEA OF TOKYO SC MEETING BEING TAKEN BY GOJ.

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2. MINISTER SAID HE WAS VERY HAZY ABOUT IDEA AND WONDERED WHO HAD SUGGESTED IT. HE KNEW THAT WE HAD RAISED IT WITH HIS FONOFF ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO BUT EMBASSY HAS HAD NO INDICATION THAT GOJ INTERESTED, WHICH IT NORMALLY WOULD HAVE HAD WERE THIS THE CASE. THERE MAY BE CERTAIN ELEMENTS IN GOJ WHO FAVOR SUCH MEETING AS OBVIOUS WAY ENHANCING JAPAN'S PRESTIGE BUT HE HAD NO SUCH INDICATION FROM TOKYO OFFICIALLY. HE SUGGESTED CASUAL CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO UN MISSIONS MAY HAVE GIVEN RISE REPORT AND NOTED THAT AUGUST, WHEN JAPAN HAS SC PRESIDENCY, IS BAD MONTH FOR TOKYO, BOTH CLIMATICALLY AND FROM STANDPOINT GA PREPARATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW SPECIAL GA SESSION ON ECONOMIC MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR EARLY SEPTEMBER. MINISTER SAID HE WOULD OF COURSE REPORT OUR CONCERN TO TOKYO BUT HE DID NOT BELIEVE GOJ PRESENTLY DISPOSED HOST SC MEETING.

3. BLAKE SAID MINISTER'S COMMENTS MOST HELPFUL; THERE WAS HIGH-LEVEL CONCERN ABOUT THIS MATTER HERE AND WE WISHED JAPAN AT HIGH LEVEL KNOW THIS. IT FOR THIS REASON WE HAD ASKED MINISTER TO CALL.

4. IN RESPONSE MINISTER'S QUESTIONS REGARDING PROGRESS OUR PREPARATIONS FOR MEETING THIS SUMMER OF GA AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CHARTER REVIEW, BLAKE SAID THESE PREPARATIONS STILL AT VERY EARLY STAGE. WHEN THEY HAD PROGRESSED SOMEWHAT FARTHER WE WOULD BE PLEASED HAVE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH JAPANESE. IN THE MEANTIME, IF GOJ HAD ANY THOUGHTS THEY WISHED PUT FORWARD, WE WOULD BE HAPPY DISCUSS THEM.

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5. FOR TOKYO: WE NOW DISPOSED TO THINK THAT WHATEVER ITS ORIGINAL INTENTIONS, GOJ NOW INCLINED AGAINST SC MEETING IN TOKYO. WHILE WE DON'T WANT TO INDULGE IN OVERKILL, IF EMBASSY SHOULD BELIEVE IT APPROPRIATE, IT MAY MAKE KNOWN TO FONOFF ITS AWARENESS APPROACH HERE, INDICATING WE PLEASED WITH SIGNS NO MEETING IN TOKYO CONTEMPLATED. INGERSOLL

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